

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1. - 35. (Cancelled).

36. (New) A method performed by a computer system for processing data objects that describe developments of business transactions, the method comprising:

selecting an initial data object to be updated;

identifying a first process chain of the initial data object, wherein the first process chain comprises a series of linked data objects, including the initial data object, and wherein the linked data objects each describe developments of a common business transaction at different points in time;

determining related data objects that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object, wherein the related data objects comprise linked data objects from the first process chain that are later in time than the initial data object;

updating the related data objects and the initial data object;

storing the related data objects and the initial data object in a database accessible by the computer system.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the related data objects further comprise linked data objects from a second process chain that are later in time than the initial data object, and that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the updating further comprises:
locking real-time access of the related data objects;
updating the initial data object; and
updating the related data objects while locked from real-time access.

39. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the updating further comprises:
cancelling at least one of the related data objects; and
updating the initial data object.

40. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the data objects comprise a time index, and wherein the updating updates the related data objects in reverse chronological order, starting with a related data object with a most recent time index and ending with the initial data object.

41. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the data objects are locked from real-time access upon selection of the initial data object until termination of the updating.

42. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the determining further comprises grouping and sorting the related data objects.

43. (New) A computer system comprising:

a database comprising data objects that describe developments of business transactions;

a computing unit comprising:

a selection module for selecting an initial data object to be updated;

a preparation module for identifying a first process chain of the initial data object, wherein the first process chain comprises a series of linked data objects, including the initial data object, and wherein the linked data objects each describe developments of a common business transaction at different points in time, and wherein the preparation module further determines related data objects that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object, wherein the related data objects comprise linked data objects from the first process chain that are later in time than the initial data object;

a process module for updating the related data objects and the initial data object and for storing the related data objects and the initial data object in a database.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the related data objects further comprise linked data objects from a second process chain that are later in time than the initial data object, and that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object.

45. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the process module further comprises locking real-time access of the related data objects, updating the initial data object, and updating the related data objects while locked from real-time access.

46. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the process module further comprises cancelling at least one of the related data objects, and updating the initial data object.

47. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the data objects comprise a time index, and wherein the process module updates the related data objects in reverse chronological order, starting with a related data object with a most recent time index and ending with the initial data object.

48. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the data objects are locked from real-time access upon selection of the initial data object until termination of the updating.

49. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the preparation module further comprises grouping and sorting the related data objects.

50. (New) A computer program stored on a computer readable medium, that, when executed on at least one processor, causes the at least one processor to perform a method, the method comprising:

selecting an initial data object to be updated;

identifying a first process chain of the initial data object, wherein the first process chain comprises a series of linked data objects, including the initial data object, and

wherein the linked data objects each describe developments of a common business transaction at different points in time;

determining related data objects that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object, wherein the related data objects comprise linked data objects from the first process chain that are later in time than the initial data object;

updating the related data objects and the initial data object;

storing the related data objects and the initial data object in a database accessible by the at least one processor.

51. (New) The computer program of claim 50, wherein the related data objects further comprise linked data objects from a second process chain that are later in time than the initial data object, and that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object.

52. (New) The computer program of claim 50, wherein the updating further comprises:

locking real-time access of the related data objects;

updating the initial data object; and

updating the related data objects while locked from real-time access.

53. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the updating further comprises:

cancelling at least one of the related data objects; and

updating the initial data object.

54. (New) The computer program of claim 50, wherein the data objects comprise a time index, and wherein the updating updates the related data objects in reverse chronological order, starting with a related data object with a most recent time index and ending with the initial data object.

55. (New) The computer program of claim 50, wherein the data objects are locked from real-time access upon selection of the initial data object until termination of the updating.

56. (New) The computer program of claim 50, wherein the determining further comprises grouping and sorting the related data objects.